

Research Institute for Public Libraries – Scholarship Opportunities

The Office of Library & Information Services is offering scholarships for public library staff to attend the Research Institute for Public Libraries at the lovely Jordan Hotel at Sunday River in Bethel, Maine this summer. What began as single event in 2015 has grown into a national series of events and a network of library leaders in data and evaluation. This inaugural New England regional event is being hosted by the Maine State Library with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

What is the Research Institute for Public Libraries – Maine Regional?

Launched in 2015 by the Colorado State Library (CSL) and the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC), the Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL) has grown from a singular event to events across the US. The institutes are incomparable events for public library leaders and others interested in public library data and evaluation. At these exclusive, immersive, bootcamp-style workshops, participants learn practical, strategic methods of gathering, analyzing, and using data for planning, management, and communicating impact. Participants also have the opportunity to join a national network of peers dedicated to data and evaluation in libraries.

At RIPL-Maine, 50 participants from New England public libraries will engage in two days of hands-on, intensive workshops about:

- Designing outcome-based evaluation of programs and services
- Assessing the needs of your community
- Techniques for tracking public library data and using these data for planning, management, and demonstrating the library's worth
- Using data and stories to document the impact of your library

When: August 14-15, 2017

Where: Jordan Hotel & Conference Center at Sunday River, Bethel, ME

Agenda:

- Sunday, August 13: Arrival and check in on Sunday, enjoy dinner on your own at the resort or local restaurant
- Monday and Tuesday, August 14-15: Full day workshops from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, August 16: Enjoy breakfast and check-out full of new skills for you and your public library!

More information about the [RIPL Maine event](#).

More information about [RIPL](#).

Apply for a scholarship

OLIS is offering four scholarships to cover the \$500 fee which includes registration, three nights stay at the Jordan Hotel and all meals for August 14-15. Recipients are responsible for their transportation costs and any meals not included in the registration fee.

Public Library Directors are encouraged to apply to attend themselves or endorse a member of their staff to attend. Applications are due Friday June 30, 2017 and recipients will be notified Friday July 7, 2017.

- To apply for a scholarship complete the [Application Form](#).

After RIPL

As part of the scholarship recipients agree to complete the following upon their return:

1. Participate as a panelist in an OLIS continuing education workshop to be held in the Fall of 2017. Panelists will report back on what they learned at RIPL, what they plan on applying in their libraries and how.
2. Write a brief report on their experience and the outcomes from attending RIPL-Maine for publication on the OLIS website.

Contact

Contact Lauren Plews at lauren.plews@olis.ri.gov or 574-9305 with any questions.

